

*Patent Application No. 09/747,850
Docket No. 99/044NUT*

monosaccharides, disaccharides, polysaccharides, emulsifiers, peptides, proteins and prebiotic substances.

- 2.(amended) The food component as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dietary fiber is selected from the group consisting of plant fibers, water-insoluble polysaccharides, water-soluble polysaccharides, pectins, lignin and plant gums.
- 5.(amended) The food component as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dietary fiber is selected from the group consisting of one or more of the following substances: plant fibers, water-insoluble celluloses, water-insoluble hemicelluloses, water-soluble polysaccharides, pectins, lignins and plant gums.
- 6.(amended) The food component as claimed in claim 1, wherein the biologically active substance is selected from the group consisting of one or more of the following substances: probiotic microorganisms, prebiotic substances, enzymes, nutrients, natural or synthetic secondary plant constituents and substances having antioxidant activity.
- 11.(amended) A process for producing a food component as claimed in claim 1, which comprises introducing a biologically active substance or a mixture of two or more biologically active substances into a medium which comprises one or more shell-forming substances selected from the group consisting of one or more of the following substances: monosaccharides, disaccharides, polysaccharides, emulsifiers, peptides, proteins and prebiotic substances, then enriching the resultant mixture with one or more dietary fiber(s), wherein one or more substances selected from the group consisting of biologically active substance,

then freeing it from solvents or dispersion media.

Please cancel Claim 4

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Please add the following Claims 12 - 19

12. The food component as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polysaccharides are selected from the group consisting of hydrolyzed starches, microbial polysaccharides, plant polysaccharides, acidic plant gums, pectins and celluloses.
13. The food component as claimed in claim 2, wherein the plant fiber is selected from the group consisting of wheat fibers, apple fibers and oat fibers.
14. The food component as claimed in claim 2, wherein the water-insoluble polysaccharides are celluloses.
15. The food component as claimed in claim 5, wherein the plant fibers are selected from the group consisting of wheat fibers, oat fibers, rice dietary fibers, apple fibers and citrus fibers.
16. The food component as claimed in claim 5, wherein the water-soluble polysaccharides are selected from the group consisting of β -glucans, fructo-oligosaccharides and galactooligosaccharides.
17. The food component as claimed in claim 6, wherein the nutrients are selected from the group consisting of vitamins, minerals, trace elements and amino acids.
18. The food component as claimed in claim 6, wherein the natural or synthetic secondary plant constituents are carotenoids.